

Confirmation No.: 3636



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/774,188

Applicant

Sawatzki

Filed TC/A.U.

3/20/01

Examiner

1615 S. J. Oh

Docket No.

SAWA3004/REF

Customer No.

23364

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22202-3514

Sir:

This is in further response to the Office Action dated October 5, 2005, in connection with the above-identified application. A Notice of Appeal was timely filed on February 6, 2006 and the initial date for filing the required appeal brief was due on April 6, 2006. A petition for a two month extension of time is submitted herewith along with the required fee.

Applicants also submit herewith a request for continuing examination (RCE) instead of the required brief to continue the prosecution before the Examiner. Applicants request dismissal of the appeal without prejudice. This amendment is the necessary submission for the RCE.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on the page with the heading "Amendments to the Claims" on page 2. .

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.